

Border Eagle

Laughlin Air Force Base, Texas ... Together we 'XL'



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the inside Scoop

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Air Power

Quote of the Week

"Air power has become predominant, both as a deterrent to war, and – in the eventuality of war – as the devastating force to destroy an enemy's potential and fatally undermine his will to wage war."

–Gen. Omar Bradley

Laughlin celebrates

Compiled from staff reports

Laughlin will celebrate the Air Force's 54th birthday during a block party celebration at 6 p.m. tonight at the base picnic grounds.

A barbecue dinner will be available for \$5 for adults and \$1 for children. There also will be live music and children's games. People should contact their first sergeants to pay for the dinner.

"This is an opportunity for the Laughlin community to celebrate the rich heritage of the United States Air Force," said Col. Rick Rosborg, 47th Flying Training Wing commander. "It's also a chance just to socialize, relax and relieve some stress."

The colonel also said, in light of recent events, Laughlin people should participate in the celebration to remember what the fellowship of being airmen and Americans is all about.

For more information, call 1st Lt. Shanna Latimer at 298-5304.

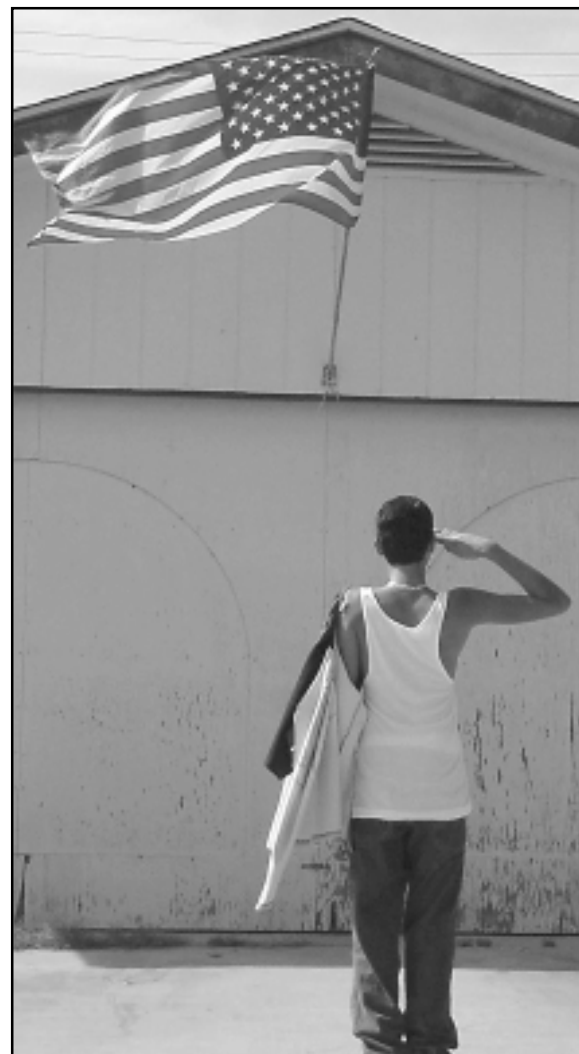


Photo by Lt. Col. Steve Cobb

Patriotism

Del Rio teen Rudy Maldonado shows his respect for the American flag Wednesday in front of a friend's home on Ridgewood Street. Lt. Col. Steve Cobb, 87th Flying Training Squadron instructor pilot, witnessed this special moment on his way home from work and stopped to thank Maldonado for the gesture. "I always salute the American flag to pay my respects," the youth said. "I am not old enough to show my patriotism any other way."

Delinquent travel card holders get payroll deductions

In October, the Defense Finance and Accounting Service will begin involuntary payroll deductions for almost 8,000 Air Force people who are more than 120 days delinquent on their government travel card accounts.

These deductions, up to 15 percent of a person's disposable income, will help Bank of America recoup the millions of dollars that cardholders owe on their past due accounts, said Michael Weber, Air Force Travel Card Program manager.

"Last month alone, Bank of America wrote off \$161,000 from delinquent Air Force cardholders," Weber said.

Before any payroll deduction begins, Bank of America will notify each cardholder, once an account reaches 90 days past due, and offer them one of two options to settle the account voluntarily, said Col. Gregory Morgan, Air Force accounting, banking and comptroller support director at the Pentagon.

"The first option is a one-time

payment to bring the account current," Morgan said. "The second option, for those financially unable to pay the account in full, is to enter into a written agreement with Bank of America to make voluntary monthly payments."

By voluntarily settling a past due account, Bank of America will permit the cardholder to restore their government travel charge card privileges, Weber said.

See 'Deduction,' page 4



Commanders' Corner

Col. George Doran

47th Operations Group commander

Laughlin to face many changes

It's going to be an interesting year!

During the next 12 months, Laughlin Air Force Base is going to experience a number of changes that will alter the sights and sounds around our base.

Starting in the winter, one of our three runways is scheduled for renovation; in the spring, our first T-6 Texan II trainer should arrive; and in the summer, the sound of turboprop aircraft flying at Laughlin will once again be heard.

The new base operations complex will be opening soon, and many vital functions will once again be centrally located and much more efficient.

All these changes I mentioned above are necessary. Over the years, our T-37 runway has been subjected to more than a million landings, and the asphalt is worn out and in danger of failing.

Our T-37 fleet, the workhorse of our pilot training mission, is simply wearing out, and it is getting harder every day to keep them flying.

A new runway and a new aircraft will ensure that Laughlin continues to be the pre-eminent pilot training base in Air Education Training Command for years to come.

Change is not confined to the flightline though; construction will begin this fall on our new billeting facility near the base exchange.

All these changes will take time to be completed, and our daily routines will be interrupted as these projects are under way.

To sum it up, change is in the air. If there is one thing I have learned in my 24 years of active duty, it is that change is constant and necessary. Any organization that stays stagnant, and does not embrace change, is destined for the scrap heap of history.

As 2002 rapidly approaches, be ready for these changes. I can assure you that the changes we know about, and the many more we don't know about, will only make the daily lives and routines of those who live and work here at Team XL better.

Top Three Talk

By Master Sgt. Kevin Smith

47th Operations Group first sergeant



Air Force offers benefits no one else can

My first six years in the Air Force were great. I was assigned to three different bases. I got to do and see many things: I had been to Texas, Montana, Florida and England; played several different sports; visited Trafalgar Square; ate British fish and chips; tasted several unique beers in small town pubs; learned darts was a national sport; visited Oxford and London and saw the changing of the palace guard.

I learned how young America really is when I visited the 800- to 1,200-year-old European buildings and castles. I learned rugby was a national game in England long before the start of American football.

I was soon faced with a big decision that would affect the rest of my life – re-enlistment.

My first term of service was

ending, and I thought long and hard about my choices. I talked to my family, went home and visited my old friends.

My friends hadn't really changed much, and their scope of the world was quite narrow. The terms teamwork, camaraderie, leadership, respect and authority were not part of their vocabulary.

I realized how much I had changed due to the training, leadership and supervision I received in the Air Force.

I realized I had a good life in the Air Force. I received pay raises and earned promotions; my money was consistent and not based on hours worked; and there were no layoffs.

Needless to say, I made the decision to re-enlist in the Air Force for another six years.

When I left New York, I didn't know I would travel to places like England, Germany, the Netherlands, Italy, Austria, Turkey and Saudi Arabia. I've learned a lot about other cultures, their languages and, most importantly, their views of Americans.

I have been to the White House and shaken the hand of the vice president. I've gotten a new, broad view of the world, and I can actually say, "I've been there." I don't have to say, "I wish I would have joined the military and traveled the world," because I did.

My decisions got clearer and involved a more dedicated purpose each time I raised my hand.

I wouldn't trade any of my experiences or memories for anything.

Thank you, Air Force.

Border Eagle



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Submissions can be e-mailed to:
bradley.pettit@laughlin.af.mil
reginal.woodruff@laughlin.af.mil

"Excellence – not our goal, but our standard."

– 47th FTW motto

Infocon Alpha

Laughlin is currently in Infocon Alpha, which means there is an increased risk of attack on information systems. People working with these systems should stay alert.

Assess all risks before taking them

Contributed by a
47th Support Group member

In the hopes of preventing others from making dumb decisions, I'd like to tell a story of a dumb decision I recently made.

I was hanging out with a couple of my friends downtown on a Friday night. One thing led to another, and before I knew it, it was 2 a.m. I looked around for my friends and couldn't find them; they had left without me.

At that point, I had a few choices of how I was going to get back to my home on base: I could have called someone for a ride; I could have attempted to catch a ride in the parking lot with someone carrying a military sticker on their car; I could have called a taxi; or I could have walked. For various reasons, I dismissed every option but one — I settled on walking back to the base, as I figured the walk would allow me time to think about my predicament.

I walked down Avenue F and stopped to buy a bottle of water for the hike ahead. I then continued down Avenue F and turned left on Highway 90 and walked down to the intersection of Bedell Avenue and Highway 90. I looked at my watch, and it had only taken me 40 minutes. I knew that once I crossed the overpass there would be no turning back because there are no telephones between there and the base. Yet, on I walked.

I turned right on 297 and proceeded to walk over the overpass to Margarite Avenue (277). As I left behind the homes and started to climb the first hill I realized it was going to be fairly dark for the remainder of my walk. The walking became

"We all need to be conscious of the fact that decisions we make impact more than just ourselves. Remember to use operational risk management in all you do. Accept no unnecessary risk."

more difficult due to the low visibility and because I was trudging through dirt and loose rocks staying as far off the road as possible. Blisters were starting to form on the bottom of both my feet, as I was wearing shoes for dancing and not hiking.

I rationed my water; I calculated the walk would take me about four hours at my present pace.

I was pretty worn out by the time I reached the elementary school and was thankful for the street lighting along the road. I sauntered on while thinking about trying to thumb a ride the rest of the way back to the base. Once I spotted the flashing traffic light that marked the turnoff to the back gate I figured the rest was downhill. Boy was I wrong. As I plodded toward the light it did not appear to be getting any closer.

I reached the turnoff just as I ran out of water. I guessed the time was about 6 a.m. as the traffic to the base was starting to pick up. Every time a car approached I had to shield my eyes to keep from being blinded by the headlights.

It was at this point that I figured I could hitchhike the rest of the way, as the traffic would be al-

most completely military. I tried to wave down cars with my military identification card to no avail. I sat down on the shoulder and tried to look pathetic, hoping someone would stop but nobody did. I finally decided to lie down and wave feebly at cars and pray someone would stop.

A good samaritan finally did stop and transported me to the back gate. I am eternally grateful to the two men who stopped for me. I was suffering from dehydration and had so many blisters on the bottoms of my feet that I could barely walk.

So, this is just a story of an individual who made an error in judgment. Well, every adult is a role model, and I have three young children. Additionally, I have subordinates who look up to me. I cannot imagine one of my children or subordinates doing what I had just done. It was both dumb and irresponsible. I have a responsibility not only to myself but to my family, friends, squadron, group, wing and, ultimately, the Air Force.

We all need to be conscious of the fact that decisions we make impact more than just ourselves. Remember to use operational risk management in all you do. Accept no unnecessary risk. The most logical choices for accomplishing a mission are those that meet all mission requirements, while exposing people and resources to the lowest acceptable risk. ORM provides tools to determine which risk or what level of risk is unnecessary.

To quote Oscar Wilde, "I suppose society is wonderfully delightful. To be in it is merely a bore. But to be out of it simply a tragedy."

Seize the day, put no trust in tomorrow but be safe in the process. Every one of us is important.

Actionline

298-5351

rough problems that haven't been leaving your name and phone number, apply. It's also very useful in case more your inquiry. If you give your name, we will make every attempt to ensure confidentiality when appropriate.

If your question relates to the general interest of the people of Laughlin, the question and answer may also be printed in the Border Eagle. Before you call the Actionline, please try to work the problem out through the normal chain of command or directly with the base agency involved.

Thanks for your cooperation, and I look forward to reading some quality ideas and suggestions.



Col. Rick Rosborg
47 FTW commander

AAFES	298-3176
Accounting and Finance	298-5204
Civil Engineer	298-5252
Civilian Personnel	298-5299
Commissary	298-5815
Dormitory manager	298-5213
Hospital	298-6311
Housing	298-5904
Legal	298-5172
Military Personnel	298-5073
Public Affairs	298-5988
Security Forces	298-5900
Services	298-5810
Military Equal Opportunity	298-5400
Equal Employment Opportunity	298-5879
FWA hotline	298-4170

Question: About the base pool closing for the winter. A lot of us use it for exercising and lap swimming because of bad knees, etc. I would like to know how to keep the base

pool open during winter with lifeguards?

Answer: After recently reviewing last year's operating costs and usage, the decision was

made to keep the Friendship Pool open this winter, with lifeguards, and to provide heaters for the dressing rooms. We appreciate your support of the base pool.

Pilots earn awards

Compiled from staff reports

Selected pilots of Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 01-14 recently received awards for their superior flying and academic accomplishments while in pilot training here.

The award winners are:

Order of Daedalians AETC Commander's Trophy

2nd Lt. Jason Garland (*Airlift/Tanker*)

2nd Lt. John Beck (*Fighter/Bomber*)

Outstanding Officer

2nd Lt. Yosef Morris (*Fighter/Bomber*)

Distinguished Graduates

2nd Lt. Jason Garland (*Airlift/Tanker*)

2nd Lt. John Beck (*Fighter/Bomber*)

Flying Training Award

2nd Lt. Jason Garland (*Airlift/Tanker*)

2nd Lt. John Beck (*Fighter/Bomber*)

Academic Training Award

2nd Lt. Brian Hoffman (*Airlift/Tanker*)

2nd Lt. Jay Thomas (*Fighter/Bomber*)

Daedalian Award

2nd Lt. Jason Garland (*Airlift/Tanker*)

Citizenship Award

2nd Lt. James Ladd (*Fighter/Bomber*)

Outstanding 2nd Lieutenant Award

2nd Lt. Kenneth Engleson (*Airlift/Tanker*)

'Deduction,' from page 1

However, if a cardholder defaults on these agreements or does not make arrangements with the bank to settle the account, the unpaid account balance will be submitted to DFAS for immediate involuntary payroll deduction, he said. This will result in the permanent termination of all government travel card privileges for the offending cardholder.

Additionally, Bank of America will begin reporting all

delinquent government travel card accounts to the credit bureaus.

"This financial irresponsibility by Air Force members greatly impacts their ability to travel and to accomplish the mission," Morgan said.

Morgan said increased unit oversight of the travel card program is needed to help combat current and future account delinquencies.

"When commanders are more cognizant of their unit's program, we see a much lower delinquency rate among Air

Civilians, reservists eager to help out

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE – In the days since the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, the Air Force has received calls and e-mails from civilians who want to join or return to active duty, as well as from reservists who are volunteering to come on active duty.

Civilians should visit the nearest Air Force recruiting office to find out about available opportunities, said officials at the Air Force Recruiting Service here. To find the nearest recruiter and to get more information about eligibility, people can call (800) 423-8723 or go online to www.airforce.com.

Members of the Reserve who want to volunteer for recalls should fill out the volunteer request form available on the Web at <http://arpc.afrc.af.mil/dpar/VR3%20Form.htm>, said officials at the Air Reserve Personnel Center.

Secretary of Defense Donald H. Rumsfeld has requested, and President Bush has approved, an order to call up as many as 50,000 members of the Reserve. The services have identified a need for 35,000 people based on mission requirements.

The Air Force portion of those requirements calls for 13,000 reservists.

(Courtesy of AETC News Service)

Force members," he said. "As more commanders have become involved, we have dropped from a 12-percent delinquency rate to one much closer to the nationwide delinquency rate among Visa and Master Card users."

"Although the Air Force has reduced the number of its delinquent accounts, the lowest among any service, we still have a long way to go," Weber said. "It's really up to the person entrusted with the government travel charge card to do the right thing – pay for what you use."

(Courtesy of Air Force Print News)

Newslines

POW/MIA events set

In honor of POW/MIA Day, there will be an open discussion session with two former Vietnam POWs today at 3 p.m. in the Operations Training Complex auditorium. There will also be a retreat ceremony today at 5 p.m. in front of the wing headquarters building. All are invited to attend.

For more information, call Public Affairs at 298-5988.

Cub/Boy Scouts rally set

A Cub/Boy Scouts rally for first-graders to 18 year olds is at 6 p.m. Monday at the chapel annex for parents with children interested.

For more information, call Master Sgt. Kevin Smith at 298-5336.

Officers call scheduled

An officers call hosted by the Company Grade Officers Council is set for 10:30 a.m. Wednesday in the Operations Training Complex auditorium. Col. John Betts, 47th Support Group commander, will be the guest speaker.

For more information, call 298-5053.

New play items arrive

Old playground areas in military family housing are receiving new playground equipment and benches. Construction of the new equipment and benches will begin Wednesday.

For more information, call Benjamin dela Cruz at 298-5253.

Laughlin blood drive set

The Southwest Texas Blood and Tissue Center is sponsoring a blood drive from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sept. 28 at the Laughlin Fiesta Center.

For more information, call Tech. Sgt. Todd Draper at 298-6481.

Military extends leave

Active-duty Air Force people will not lose any accumulated annual leave in excess of 60 days – commonly referred to as "use or lose" leave – as a consequence of operations resulting from the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

Those who do accumulate more than 60 days, as a result of being recalled from or not being allowed to take annual leave, are able to keep up to 90 days of annual leave until the end of fiscal 2002. Also, any scheduled leave that is lost between Sept. 11 and 30 will be restored.

**For the latest edition of
Air Force Television News,
turn to base cable channel 34**

Air Force provides health care update

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE – The Air Force is committed to providing servicemembers and their families with quality health care, according to a message sent Aug 29.

In a joint memo from the offices of the surgeon general, manpower and reserve affairs and people, a Tricare update gave beneficiaries the latest information concerning their health care, officials said.

In the first of a series of health care messages the Air Force will deliver over the next several months, officials addressed the new authority for Tricare Prime Remote for family members. The message also provided tips for registering newborns in the Defense Eligibility Enrollment Reporting System and enrolling them in Tricare Prime, and the importance of briefing health care information during in- and out-processing briefings.

Tricare Prime remote offers benefits very similar to Tricare Prime for active-duty people who are stationed more than 50 miles or a one-hour drive from a military hospital or clinic, officials said.

In 2002, the Tricare Prime remote benefit will be offered to family members. To participate, family members must enroll in the Tricare Prime remote for active-duty family member program.

The benefits include lower out-of-pocket costs for most health care, enhanced access to preventive services and the ability to select a primary care manager when one is available in the area, officials said.

For additional data, officials urged military members and their families to visit the Tricare Management Activity Web site at www.TRICARE.osd.mil and to click on "Tricare beneficiaries, understanding your Tricare benefits." For specific questions or to inquire about eligibility status, people can speak with a Tricare Management Activity representative by calling (800) DOD-CARE, or (800) 363-2273.

An additional concern for active-duty family members, especially those in remote locations, is how to register a newborn child in DEERS, officials said. A little-known fact is the sponsor-signed DEERS enrollment form, DD Form 1172, together with a

certificate of a live birth signed by the attending physician, can be mailed to the military personnel flight.

Initially, sponsors do not need to have a social security number or birth certificate to register a child into DEERS or for initial enrollment into Tricare Prime, officials said. These can be submitted at a later date once the sponsor receives the official documents. To limit out-of-pocket costs and problems with claims processing, a newborn should be enrolled in TRICARE Prime not more than 120 days after birth, officials said.

The office of the secretary of Defense directed all military services to incorporate Tricare education and enrollment into their in- and out-processing programs to ensure all beneficiaries are aware of their health care options. It is very important that active-duty people and their spouses understand their Tricare options and have an easily accessible point of contact to obtain additional Tricare information if needed, officials said.

(Courtesy of AETC News Service)

'Deli'cious

Mary Ann Lugo (left), commissary deli assistant manager, prepares a Del Rio sandwich at the commissary Tuesday as Nancy Prime, deli manager, looks on. The Del Rio is among five new made-to-order sandwiches on the deli's menu. The other sandwiches include the XLER, T-1, T-38 and T-37. To place an order or for more information, call 298-5875.



Photo by Airman Timothy J. Stein

Tricare for Life effective Oct. 1

The Tricare for Life program will go into effect Oct. 1. On that date, all uniformed services beneficiaries who are Medicare-eligible and who have purchased Medicare Part B will gain access to the expanded medical coverage of TFL.

Tricare for Life is available for:

- Medicare-eligible military retirees, including retired Guard members and reservists.
- Medicare-eligible family members and widows/widowers.
- Certain former spouses if they were eligible for Tricare benefits before age 65.

Tricare for Life offers comprehensive healthcare coverage for you and your eligible family members:

■ Medical services at military facilities. You may continue to obtain medical services at military treatment facilities. Under a program known as Tricare Plus, some beneficiaries may be allowed to enroll for primary care at MTFs, based on local availability. Call 2nd Lt. Hugh Kenrick at 298-6324 for more details.

■ Medical services payable by Medicare and Tricare. Medicare will pay first, and the remaining out-of-pocket expenses will be paid by Tricare. After Medicare pays its allowance for your medical bills, it will forward your claim to Tricare. Tricare will then determine the amount it will pay and send the payment to your doctor or hospital.

■ Medical services payable by Tricare but not Medicare (such as overseas care). Tricare will pay, and you will be responsible for an annual deductible and cost share.

■ Medical services payable by Medicare but not Tricare (such as chiropractic services). Medicare pays, with Tricare paying nothing. You must pay the Medicare copays.

■ Medical services not payable by Medicare or Tricare (such as cosmetic surgery). You are responsible for the cost of non-covered services.

To qualify for Tricare for Life, you and your eligible family members must be enrolled in Medicare Part B and be correctly listed in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS). If you are not enrolled in Medicare Part B, you can visit the Social Security Administration online at www.ssa.gov or call (800) 772-1213, TTY/TDD (800) 325-0778. To be sure your information is correct in DEERS, call (800) 538-9552.

Attend a briefing on Tricare for Life to fully understand your options under the program. Upcoming briefings in the Del Rio Community will be held today at 9:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. at the Del Rio Civic Center in the Red Oak Ballroom.

You can also learn more about the Tricare for Life program by visiting www.tricare.osd.mil or calling (888) 363-5433.

(Courtesy of Tricare For Life Press)

After you read this newspaper, go to
<http://www.af.mil/newspaper>

Power of attorney important initiative for military people

By Terra Wade

47th Flying Training Wing Legal Office clerk

Military members are often called away from home on short notice. In such circumstances, the proper power of attorney can provide their families with the authority to act on their behalf and administer personal affairs in their absence.

A power of attorney is a legal document by which you, the principal or grantor, give another person (often referred to as the attorney-in-fact) the legal authority to act as your agent, to do something for you on your behalf.

There is no law or regulation specifying when you may give another person your power of attorney, but another person cannot normally act for you on your behalf in business or legal matters without receiving a power of attorney from you. Without a power of attorney, even close family members, such as spouses, parents and siblings, may run into trouble in handling your business, personal, or legal matters.

There are two types of powers of attorney.

A general power of attorney gives your agent the right to conduct almost all business transactions you could do personally. An action done under authority of a general power of attorney is treated as if you actually made the transaction.

There are two important factors you should consider before you get a general power of attorney. First, there is no legal requirement that anyone recognize or accept a power of attorney. Merely because your agent has your power of attorney does not mean that all businesses will allow your agent to act on your behalf. Second, even if the general power of attorney is accepted, your agent may obligate you in a way that you never intended and for which you will be held accountable. The general power of attorney is a very powerful document, and because it grants such broad powers, it opens you up to some risk, so you must trust that person with everything you own.

A special power of attorney is a limited power of attorney that only provides your agent the right to act for you to accomplish some specific purpose. Examples include registering or selling an automobile or house, shipping your household goods, and cashing checks. Special powers of attorney are more readily acceptable than general powers of attorney because the authority of the attorney-in-fact is spelled out in the document, specifically defining the areas in which you allow your agent to obligate you.

This legal service is provided to military members, retired military members, and their dependents. The legal office can prepare general powers of attorney and special powers of attorney on a walk-in basis from 2-3 p.m. Monday-Friday. The person giving the power must be present to sign the power of attorney and have the document notarized. The legal office will provide notary services.

If you are interested in making a power of attorney that only takes effect in the event that you are incapacitated, use the legal assistance walk-in hours from 3-4 p.m. Tuesdays from 8-9 a.m. Thursdays.

For more information, call 298-4859.

The XLer



Photo by Airman Timothy J. Stein

Capt. Chad Franks

84th Flying Training Squadron flight commander

Hometown:

New Orleans, La.

Family:

Wife, Kim; sons, Logan and Tyler

Time at

Laughlin: 1 1/2 years

Time in service:

10 1/2 years

Name one way to improve life at

Laughlin: More basewide activities

Greatest accomplishment:

My wife and two boys

Hobbies:

Drinking with friends

Bad habit:

Drinking with friends

Favorite food:

Boiled crawfish

Favorite beverage:

Beer
If you could spend one hour with any person, who would it be and why?

Osama bin Laden in order to remove him from the face of the earth.

Program resolves workplace disputes

By Diana Jimenez

47th Flying Training Wing

Equal Employment Opportunity chief counselor

Do you find yourself in the midst of a conflict with your supervisor or co-worker? If you do, then you probably just want to have the problem taken care of in a timely, effective manner. A dispute in the workplace can cause a problem and may even impact your performance.

In this kind of situation, the first course of action is to work the problem up your chain of command because that's the quickest, most efficient way to solve any workplace problem. However, if that fails, there is another option. The Alternative Dispute Resolution, available to the military and civilian work force at Laughlin, utilizes a range of problem-solving processes to resolve disagreements without litigation, thus allowing agreements to be reached in a timely manner.

ADR uses a neutral third party known as a mediator to facilitate resolution. Mediators are trained volunteers who cannot make or force decisions on the parties in dispute. All information that is shared with the mediator during a caucus, or private session, is kept confidential. With the assistance of the mediator, parties in conflict explore their interests and fashion a creative solution that is mutually agreeable. After a solution is agreed upon, the resolution is put into writing in a self-formed contract. The parties are the designers of the agreement. The mediation process generally lasts for four to six hours.

For more information, or if you have a conflict you haven't been able to resolve through your chain of command, call Diana Jimenez at 298-5879 or Military Equal Opportunity at 298-5400.



In light of recent events, how do you feel about the base's being in Force Protection Condition Charlie?



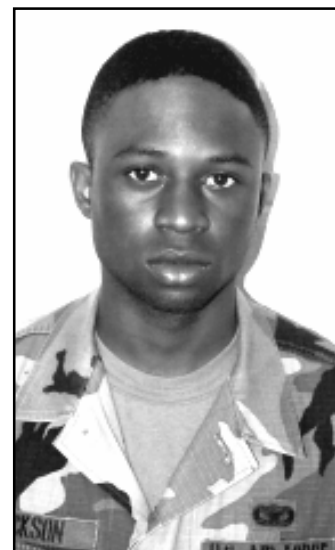
2nd Lt. James Oberg
47th Mission Support Squadron financial services officer

"I feel the base is doing an excellent job. I feel safe."



Master Sgt. Tim Adkins
47th Mission Support Squadron customer support superintendent

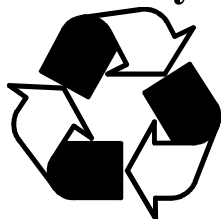
"It is a necessary step to protect our people and resources."



Airman 1st Class Glynn Jackson
47th Security Forces Squadron installation controller

"I think it is imperative that we adhere and abide by Air Force standards and regulations."

Please recycle.



Students serve senior citizens 'soul food'

By Tech. Sgt. Reginal Woodruff

Public affairs

Many Americans showed they were willing to risk their lives to save others over the past several days. Across the country, thousands of people have donated money, food, blood and time, further demonstrating the American spirit of giving.

The students of Airman Leadership School Class 01-02, who are mostly in their early 20s, showed that same spirit when they visited and cooked for residents of the Ratama Manor Nursing Center in Del Rio.

According to Senior Airman Rafael Taylor, 47th Contracting Squadron contracting specialist, who organized the visit, some students weren't enthusiastic about the idea at first.

"They were a little apprehensive about going, but it didn't take long before everyone was having a good time. By the end of the day, they were saying they wanted to come back."

Everyone withstood early evening heat and the initial awkwardness that can come with meeting someone for the first time to make the evening enjoyable.

"This is absolutely wonderful to have the students come visit," said Darrell Breckenridge, center administrator. "These [residents] have been watching TV; they know what's going on. It's positive for them to know that the Air Force is alive and well.

"This visit means a lot," he said in a trembling voice. "I could go on praising these young people all day."

David Lee Murray, a well-known singer and songwriter, sang spiritual and patriotic songs while the students prepared food, served drinks and talked with the residents about the military, family and life.

Some of the residents are former or retired veterans. Many of them are confined to wheel-



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Reginal Woodruff

Senior Airman Paul Doyle talks to Phyllis Larson during the visit to Ratama Manor Nursing Center.

chairs, some because one or both legs were amputated or had just given out. Despite their lack of mobility, slowed speech, poor hearing and other impairments, the residents showed an infectious zest for life that made students feel right at home.

"I'm having a blast; it feels good to make a difference," said Senior Airman Paul Doyle, 47th Communications Squadron radio maintenance technician. "I learn more from them (older

people) than younger people, and I find they are easier to talk to. And look at their smiles; we've brightened their day. This makes you realize why you do what you do in the military."

"I feel the least we can do is to spread sunshine in their day," said Senior Airman LaTonya Denman, 47th Mission Support information manager. "They've been through a lot and have given a lot and just need someone to talk to. It's like visiting your grandparents."

During ALS, the senior airmen are learning to be better speakers, writers and listeners. Listening was the skill of choice this day. They heard and learned from wisdom that can only be gained through time and experience. Possibly the greatest lesson came from one of the ladies confined to a wheelchair, optimistic that she'll walk again soon.

"Young people should enjoy life and not take it too serious because it goes by fast," said Phyllis Larson. "It's going by fast for me. It's like the song, 'Row, row, row your boat, gently down the stream; Merrily, merrily, merrily, merrily, life is but a dream.'"

"This visit is an unexpected pleasure," she said through her laughter. "It's the most fun I've had in years."

The ALS students were still visiting with the residents long after the hamburgers were done. They continued "providing sunshine" long after the sun went down and hours after they'd fulfilled their community service commitment for ALS. Some students said it became a personal commitment — the same selflessness shown by thousands of Americans in the wake of the country's recent tragedy.

Many of the students talked about returning. One of them made a very personal commitment: Doyle promised Phyllis that he is coming back to dance with her when she's walking again.

Reminder: Hate crimes will not be tolerated in Air Force

By Staff Sgt. Amy Parr

Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — Hate crimes are reportedly on the rise across America in the wake of terrorist attacks in New York and Washington Sept. 11.

But, even as they assist in cleanup and recovery operations at the Pentagon, Air Force officials are quick to remind bluesuiters everywhere of Air Force policy regarding such conduct.

"It will not be tolerated in the Air

Force," said Bob Cook, Air Force Equal Opportunity policy chief at the Pentagon. "Commanders have been urged at all levels to remain vigilant and take prompt, appropriate action with members of their commands who fail to meet Air Force standards. Discriminatory treatment in any form, including against individuals of Arab-American, Middle Eastern or Muslim descent, simply will not be tolerated."

People who violate this policy are subject to action under the Uniform Code of Military Justice. To

date, Cook said only one Air Force incident has been reported.

Individuals should immediately report all incidents relating to hate crimes, discrimination or harassment to local military equal opportunity offices, Cook said.

Air Force leaders have expressed a personal concern and determination that Air Force people will not be subjected to inappropriate treatment because of their national origin, religious beliefs or physical appearance.

Arab-Americans and members

of Islamic faith groups are part of our American society and the Air Force, and they should not be unfairly targeted for attacks on America, Cook said.

"Unfortunately, the suffering, loss of life, grief and anger that we are experiencing as a result of last week's tragic acts of terrorism may cause some of our people to react negatively and forget this basic tenet," Cook said. "For that reason, people must be even more vigilant and proactive to prevent these acts and, when necessary, respond to acts

Sports briefs

Sports – Play it safe

Texas Open tickets available

A limited number of tickets to the Texas Open at La Cantera are available to military members at no cost. The 2001 Texas Open will be played Monday through Sept. 30 at the La Cantera Golf Club in San Antonio. La Cantera is located northwest of the intersection of Interstate 10 and Loop 1604. Military people may obtain tickets at the Leaning Pine Golf Course.

For more information, call 298-5451.

Football Standings (As of Wednesday)

AFC			NFC		
Team	W	L	Team	W	L
LCSAM	1	0	LSI Enforcers	2	0
Misfits	1	0	47 OSS	1	0
47 CES	0	0	87 Talons	1	1
E. Panthers	0	1	84/85 Tweets	1	1
Comm/Con/Svs	0	3	86 Rios Lobos	0	1

Scores

Monday	Tuesday
Enforcers 27 – Tweets 7	Misfits 1 – Panthers 0
47 OSS 19 – CCS 0	Tweets 20 – Talons 7
47 CES 6 – LCSAM 6	LCSAM 2 – Comm 0

